

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 VO-03 SCA-01 PM-07 NSC-10

SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 L-03 /084 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:JWSIMMS:PR

APPROVED BY ARA/LA/CAR:JRBOURKE

DOD/ISA:LT.COL. D.ENGLE (SUBS)

S/R:ORM MR.C.PAPPAS (DRAFT)

----- 070120

O R 072324Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE

COMNAVBASE GUANTANAMO IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCLANTFLT

COMCARIBSEAFRON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240458

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PINS, HA

SUBJECT:HAITIAN "REFUGEES" AT GUANTANAMO

REF: PORT-AU-PRINCE 2087

1. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL THE I9 MAKE NO CLAIM TO PRIOR PERSECUTION, IMPRISONMENT, OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM HAITI. THEY STATE THAT THEYCAME TO THE UNITED STATES TO FIND WORK AND SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES IN HAITI. WE DO NOT BELIEVE ANY OFTHEM HAS A VALID CLAIM TO ASYLUM ON THE BASIS OF THE FACTS PROVIDED.

2. ON BASIS OF INFORMATION THUS FAR SUBMITTED, WE ARE UN-ABLE TO CONCLUDE THAT THESE I9 HAITIANS SHOULD BE EXEMPTED FROM REGULAR IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY WOULD SUFFER PERSECUTION ON ACCOUNT OF RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, POLITICAL OPINION, OR MEMBERSHIP IN A PARTI-CULAR SOCIAL GROUP SHOULD THEY RETURN TO HAITI. IF ANY
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION COMES TO LIGHT, IT SHOULD BE REPORT-

ED BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE THE I9 SHOULD BE
RETURNED TO HAITI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. REFTTEL DOES NOT STATE WHETHER BOAT IN WHICH HAITIANS
ARRIVED AT GUANTANAMO IS SEAWORTHY. IF IT IS, THEY COULD
SIMPLY BE FURNISHED PROVISIONS AND DIRECTED TO RETURN TO
HAITI. (WE RECOGNIZE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY MIGHT CHOOSE

INSTEAD TO GO TO MIAMI BUT BELIEVE SUCH OUTCOME WOULD BE
LESS LIKELY IF THEY WERE TOLD IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THEY
WOULD NOT BE ADMITTED.) IF BOAT IS NOT SEAWORTHY, WOULD
WELCOME SUGGESTION FROM COM NAVAL BASE GUANTANAMO RE
AVAILABLE MEANS BY WHICH THEY CAN BE RETURNED TO THEIR
NATIVE COUNTRY.

5. NO APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE BY EMBASSY TO GOH UNTIL
GUANTANAMO HAS DETERMINED WHETHER HAITIAN BOAT SEAWORTHY
AND, IF NOT, MEANS OF RETURNING HAITIANS. KISSINGER

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